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Message Text

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11
ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 ISO-00 AEC-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00

EA-11 EUR-25 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 IO-14 L-03 NASA-04

NEA-11 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OIC-04 SPC-03 PA-04 PRS-01

RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 TRSE-00

OMB-01 DRC-01 /213 W
---------- 009011
R 310010Z JAN 74
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2540
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0337

DISTO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM UN
SUBJ: REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS (ROB) EXPERTS GROUP

REF: USUN 268 (NOTAL)
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1. BJORNERSTEDT, DIRECTOR OF DISARMAMENT DIVISION IN UN SECRETARIAT, TOLD MISOFF JAN 30 THAT SECRETARIAT NOW THINKING OF 16 RATHER THAN 15 EXPERTS FOR ROB STUDY IN ORDER TO PERMIT ADDITIONAL PLACE FOR WEO. HE SAID IT IS DOUBTFUL MORE COULD BE ACCOMMODATED BECAUSE ORIGINAL FINANCIAL ESTIMATE OF $153,000 FOR STUDY WAS CUT TO $120,000 BY ACABQ. DECISION TO OPEN THE DOOR TO ANOTHER WEO EXPERT WAS MADE AFTER CHAIRMAN OF WEO REGIONAL GROUP MADE DEMARCHE TO SECRETARIAT. ITALY AND BELGIUM ARE UNDERSTOOD BY BJORNERSTEDT TO HAVE SOME INTEREST.

2. BJORNERSTEDT ALSO SAID DIFFICULTY IN GETTING GROUP CONSTITUTED HAS NOW CAUSED FURTHER POSTPONEMENT OF STARTING DATE OF FIRST MEETING TO FEB 19. APART FROM FACT THAT UK, US, FRANCE AND JAPAN HAVE NOT GIVEN OFFICIAL REPLIES YET TO UN INVITATION, NO LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRY IS EVEN BEING THOUGHT OF TO REPLACE BRAZIL (BARBADOS AS REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRMAN WAS APPROACHED FOR IDEAS), EGYPT HAS ONLY PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF SENDING AN EXPERT AND NO ANSWER IS EXPECTED FOR TEN DAYS, IRAN HAS DECLINED AND THERE IS NO ASIAN SUBSTITUTE FOR IT AS YET. ONLY CERTAIN PARTICIPANTS ARE USSR, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, YUGOSLAVIA, INDIA, ETHIOPIA, NIGERIA, SWEDEN, AND MEXICO.

3. BJORNERSTEDT SAID FEB 19 DATE IS ALREADY ADDING TO PROJECTED EXPENSES BECAUSE OUTSIDE INTERPRETERS WILL HAVE TO BE HIRED, AND ANY FURTHER DELAY WILL BE ADMINISTRATIVELY DIFFICULT.

4. AS REPORTED IN REFTEL, FRANCE HAS DECIDED TO REJECT INVITATION. INSTRUCTIONS REACHED FRENCH MISSION HERE JAN 28. MISSION WAS ASKED TO CONCERT WITH US AND UK IN TIMING RESPONSE AND IS PRESUMABLY WAITING FOR FINAL DECISION FROM LONDON AND WASHINGTON BEFORE COMMUNICATING WITH SECRETARIAT.
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